

Regular Meeting  
Charleston Township Board  
May 23, 2017

Special Meeting to Discuss GLSWA Proposal to Maintain Township Sewer System At 6:15 p.m.

The Supervisor opened the meeting. The Clerk called the roll and all members were present. Rich Pierson explained the proposal and answered questions. There are two parts to the proposal – GLSWA could act as the operator of Charleston’s sewer system or they could assume ownership of the system. Currently, Charleston has a contract with the City of Kalamazoo for the portion of its sewer system that encompasses McCollum, Wren Acres, Pinehill and E Michigan and a contract with Gull Lake Sewer & Water Authority for the portion that runs down 37<sup>th</sup> Street. The Board decided to study the proposal before a decision is made. Schug/Samson moved to adjourn the special meeting at 6:58.  
CARRIED

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Supervisor who led those present in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

Roll was called and members present were: VanderRoest, Balkema, Samson, Schug and Kramer. Also present were Jim Wooden, Pat McCann, Tom McGee, George Waller, Linda & Gary Walters, Cynthia Herbrandson, Jim Whitehead and Rich Pierson.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED AGENDA AND MINUTES:

Balkema/Schug moved to approve the agenda with the addition of one item under New Business: Grant Night Hours for Operation of Gravel Pits for Work on I-94. CARRIED

CONSENT AGENDA:

Balkema/Samson moved to approve the consent agenda as submitted consisting of:

1. March 28, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes  
April 6, 2017 Election Commission Meeting
2. Zoning Administrator’s Report
3. Planning Commission Report
4. Fire Department – Joint Fire Board Report
5. Communications
6. Treasurer’s Report
7. Sheriff’s Department Monthly Report
8. Attorney’s Report

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. The third and final weekly publication of the Order for Alternate Service has been completed. Now the 28- day clock starts running for any person who may claim an interest in Toad Hollow Cemetery to take action to assert their interest. If that 28- day period lapses without anyone coming forward, the attorney will request the Circuit Court to enter a final judgment of title in favor of the Township.
- b. Patrick McCann complained about Building Inspector Bert Gale. He thinks Mr. Gale is too particular about Code violations. He also said he wasn’t notified of the Tire Drop Off date and time even though Jerry told him specifically about it when they met at the Speedway to discuss a list of violations. He said the tires would be removed as soon as they found a place to take them. Balkema/Schug **moved that the Galesburg Speedway must dispose of the tires and all other violations must be corrected by June 20<sup>th</sup>. An inspection will verify that the tires have been removed before the June 27<sup>th</sup> Township Board meeting.** CARRIED

**PUBLIC HEARING: 7:30 P.M. Special Exception Use Augusta VFW Hall**

Balkema/Kramer moved to recess the regular meeting and open the Public Hearing. Roll Call Vote: Samson – Y; Schug -Y; VanderRoest – Y; Kramer – Y; Balkema – Y. CARRIED

George Waller, representing the Augusta VFW Hall, gave a brief explanation of their plans for a pavilion and their desire to be good neighbors. Linda Walters and Cynthia Herbrandson expressed their concerns about outdoor noise late at night and alcohol. Samson/Balkema moved to close the Public Hearing and return to the regular meeting. CARRIED Jerry explained that the VFW has a club license for alcohol that is regulated by the State of Michigan. After some discussion and a review of the proposal standards in Section 23.3/Section 23.7.24 of the Zoning Ordinance, a proposal was made to add a special condition to the Special Exception Use permit.

Balkema/Schug **moved to grant the Special Exception Use permit with the special condition of limiting until 10:00 p.m. outside entertainment, organized activity or anything that generates excessive noise.** Roll Call Vote: Balkema – Y; Kramer – Y; VanderRoest – Y; Schug – Y; and Samson – Y. CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Jerry explained to representatives of the Galesburg Speedway that there is a \$150 charge from the Township for a Fireworks Permit. The permit is available online on the State of Michigan/LARA website. Balkema/Schug **moved to authorize the Supervisor to grant a commercial fireworks permit to Galesburg Speedway contingent upon receipt of the completed application, the \$150 fee and proof of insurance for July 4 with a rain date of July 9, 2017.** CARRIED
- b. Schug/VanderRoest **moved to set the 2017 Township millage rate at .9724.** CARRIED
- c. As required by the Michigan Department of Treasury, Balkema/Schug **moved to adopt the updated Uniform Chart of Accounts.** CARRIED
- d. This agenda item was completed after the Special Exception Use Public Hearing.
- e. Jerry reported that the Trash Drop Off went very well and was the most successful one yet.
- f. Schug/VanderRoest **moved to allow for a one-time traffic count on N 38<sup>th</sup> Street for approximately \$45.** CARRIED
- g. Upon the Fire Chief's recommendation, Balkema/Samson **moved to authorize the Supervisor and the Clerk to sign the Ambulance Provider Agreement.** CARRIED
- h. Jerry presented a draft of the request for a grant for Haz Mat Equipment from Enbridge.
- i. Balkema/Samson **moved to allow the Supervisor to grant night hours for operation of local gravel pits for work on I- 94.** CARRIED

READING & DISPOSITION BILLS:

Balkema/Samson moved that the bills be allowed and that warrants be drawn on the treasury for their respective amounts. CARRIED

CITIZEN TIME:

No citizens were present

MEMBERS TIME:

Linda said she is still researching projectors and screens, but wondered if a large flat screen TV would work as well. Brenda will check into it. Don reported that Eaton donated radios to the Fire Department. Brenda presented a request from the District Library to use the townships tables for the Book Sale at Greater Galesburg Day. The board approved the request. Jerry said that Dan Moyle has been appointed Charleston's representative on the Road Commission, that the South Well repair can wait, and that the move of the fire hydrant near Eaton's has been completed. He also noted that the next County MTA meeting will be at the Road Commission on June 15, at 6:30, that someone is interested in installing solar panels in the Township and that the Curtis and the rescheduled Williamson variance requests are coming up.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Samson/Balkema moved to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. CARRIED

Linda Kramer, Clerk